

Date

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

11-10-15

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)

	Initials	Date
1. <u>Amelia Piggott ENF-L</u>	AP	11.10.15
2. Andrea Madigan ENF-L	AM	11.10.15
3. Sharon Abendschan (out of office, please send to Kelcey) ENF-RC	Kyc	11/10/15
4. Kelcey Land ENF-RC	Kyc	11/10/15
5. Johanna Miller EPR-AR	JM	
6. Bill Murray EPR-SR	BM	11/12/15
7. Sandy Stavnes EPR-IO	SA	11/12/15
8. Martin Hestmark EPR	MH	11/12/15
9. Betsy Varcoe RA		
10. Shawn McGrath (for signature)		

<input type="checkbox"/> Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File	<input type="checkbox"/> Note and Return
<input type="checkbox"/> Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> For Clearance	<input type="checkbox"/> Per Conversation
<input type="checkbox"/> As Requested	<input type="checkbox"/> For Correction	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Reply
<input type="checkbox"/> Circulate	<input type="checkbox"/> For Your Information	<input type="checkbox"/> See Me
<input type="checkbox"/> Comment	<input type="checkbox"/> Investigate	<input type="checkbox"/> Signature
<input type="checkbox"/> Coordination	<input type="checkbox"/> Justify	

REMARKS

Agreement between all parties has been reached.
Public meeting to discuss remedial investigation will be held November 12, these letters should be transmitted by morning of November 12. Questions? Please contact Amelia Piggott x6410.

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disposals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)
Amelia Piggott

Room No. - Bldg.

Phone No.
(303) 312-6410



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
www.epa.gov/region08

Ref: 8EPR-AR

CONCURRENCE COPY

The Honorable Steve Bullock
Governor of the State of Montana
Montana State Capitol Building
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, Montana 59620-0801

Re: Smurfit-Stone Mill Site and Proposed NPL Listing

Dear Governor Bullock:

Thank you for your September 21, 2015, letter regarding the proposed Smurfit-Stone Mill Superfund Site (Site). The EPA shares your goals of completing additional investigation at the Site in order to properly address human health and environmental risks.

To that end, the EPA has engaged in good faith negotiations with M2Green, International Paper, and West Rock (formerly Rock Tenn) for the past several months to reach agreement on an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) and work plan to complete the remedial investigation of the Site. I am pleased to report that the parties have reached an agreement and anticipate the field investigation will begin this

CONCUR	Name	Rob Parker	Amelia Piggott	Andrea Madigan	Sharon Abendschan	Kelcey Land	Johanna Miller
	Initial	RP	AP	AM			
	Office code	EPR-AR	ENF-L	ENF-L	ENF-RC	ENF-RC	EPR-AR
	Date	10/30/15	10.30.15	11/10/15			11/12/15
	Name	Bill Murray SRW	Sandy Stavnes	Martin Hestmark	Betsy Varcoe	Shaun McGrath	W. Kelcey Land
	Initial	SRW 11/12/15	SAS 11/12/15	MMA 11/12/15			WKL 11/12/15
	Office code	EPR-SR	EPR-IO	EPR-IO	RA	RA	
	Date						

month.

The EPA is grateful for the support provided by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Representatives from the DEQ have participated in the ongoing negotiations and the EPA anticipates continued collaboration as we proceed with the listing process, site characterization, development of cleanup plans and cleanup.

The EPA appreciates your interest in EPA activities at the Site. Should members of your staff have technical questions, Remedial Project Manager Sara Sparks is available at (406) 782-7415. Legal questions can be directed to Amelia Piggott, Enforcement Attorney, at (303) 312-6410.

Sincerely,

Shaun L. McGrath
Regional Administrator

cc: Commissioner Stacy Rye
Commissioner Nicole Rowley
Commissioner Jean Curtiss
Vicky Zeier, Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer
Tom Livers, Montana DEQ

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE OF MONTANA

STEVE BULLOCK
GOVERNOR



ANGELA McLEAN
LT. GOVERNOR

September 21, 2015

Shaun McGrath
Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

RE: Smurfit-Stone Frenchtown Mill Site and Proposed NPL Listing

Dear Mr. McGrath:

I write to encourage the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to list the former Smurfit-Stone Frenchtown Mill site on the National Priorities List (NPL) as soon as practicable in the fall of 2015 or spring of 2016.

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) appreciates the efforts taken by the EPA over the last year to further characterize the site, as well as engage the Potential Responsible Parties (PRPs) to conduct site cleanup. The agencies' efforts of the past year, however, have unfortunately not led to the finalization of an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) with the PRPs to conduct further investigations of the industrial, agricultural, floodplain and the Clark Fork River areas impacted by decades of paper mill operations. As I am sure you are aware, the cleanup of this site has local community support. DEQ encourages EPA to take this opportunity to move this site closer to cleanup by listing it on the NPL. Additionally, DEQ encourages EPA to continue site characterization efforts by using your authority to proceed with site investigation this fall.

Although some site investigation has been accomplished, much more needs to be done to fully characterize this site to ensure a cleanup that is protective of human health and the environment. In particular, sufficient characterization of the river and floodplain must be done to ensure long-term protections to the Clark Fork River, one of Montana's iconic water courses. Listing the site on the NPL is the next appropriate step to address the contaminants, including dioxins, at this site.

As always, the DEQ will provide assistance and full cooperation with EPA as it moves through the listing process, site characterization, development of cleanup plans, and the cleanup itself. The State of Montana will continue to work with EPA to meet our common goals of protection of human health and the environment.

Sincerely,

A stylized signature of Steve Bullock in black ink.

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor

CC: Director Tom Livers
Commissioner Stacy Rye
Commissioner Nicole Rowley
Commissioner Jean Curtis
Vickie Zeier, Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer
Debra Thomas, EPA Region 8 Deputy Regional Administrator
Deputy Director Joe Vranka
Martin Hestmark, Assistant Region Administrator
Bill Murray, Superfund Remedial Program Director
Director James Woolford



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Helena, Montana 59620-0801

Re: Smurfit-Stone Mill Site and Proposed NPL Listing

Dear Governor Bullock:

Thank you for your September 21, 2015, letter regarding the proposed Smurfit-Stone Mill Superfund Site (Site). The EPA shares your goals of completing additional investigation at the Site in order to properly address human health and environmental risks.

To that end, the EPA has engaged in good faith negotiations with M2Green, International Paper, and West Rock (formerly Rock Tenn) for the past several months to reach agreement on an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) and work plan to complete the remedial investigation of the Site. The parties are close to agreement, and hope to finalize the documents and begin field investigation this year. The EPA is prepared to conduct the remedial investigation should negotiations become unsuccessful, and will consider appropriate options and timing related to finalizing listing of the Site on the NPL.

The EPA is grateful for the support provided by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Representatives from the DEQ have participated in the ongoing negotiations and the EPA anticipates continued collaboration as we proceed with the negotiations, listing process, site characterization, development of cleanup plans and cleanup.

The EPA appreciates your interest in EPA activities at the Site. Should members of your staff have technical questions, Remedial Project Manager Sara Sparks is available at (406) 782-7415. Legal questions can be directed to Amelia Piggott, Enforcement Attorney, at (303) 312-6410.

Sincerely,

Shaun L. McGrath
Regional Administrator

cc: Commissioner Stacy Rye
Commissioner Nicole Rowley
Commissioner Jean Curtiss

ORIGINAL LETTER (NOT SENT YET)

Vicky Zeier, Missoula County Chief Administrative Officer
Tom Livers, Montana DEQ